



## Coastal Tourism Development Criteria for Maldives

- Limit the maximum built-up area to 20% of total land area.
- Preserve the aesthetic integrity of resort islands by restricting the height of buildings to the height of the vegetation profile of the island. The maximum height of any building is limited to two stories provided that there is vegetation on the island to conceal these buildings.
- Allocate space for each tourist such that each tourist room should face the beach with 5 linear meters of beach line provided to each tourist in front of their room. Only 68% of the beach length can be allocated to guestrooms. 20% has to be allocated to public use and 12% left as open space.
- Preserve native vegetation through mandatory replacement of each tree that is cut down. Certain rare and large trees have to be avoided when constructing buildings.
- Ensure setbacks from the beach such that all buildings have to be located well away from the peripheral vegetation. A minimum setback distance is 5 meters from the shoreline to ensure that the peripheral vegetation, most important to coastal protection, is preserved.
- Allocate space for vegetation between buildings to ensure that substantial areas of indigenous vegetation are left untouched.
- Prevent construction of rock-filled jetties, groins, seawalls and detached and submerged breakwaters. Rather, promotion of greater coral colonization on the peripheral reefs and other natural methods to protect shorelines is encouraged.